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Classification of the Forest Vegetation of Wyoming

Robert R. Alexander¹

Forest vegetation in Wyoming is classified into 9 series, 111 habitat and community types, and plant communities. The name, location, relative site, successional status, principal tree and understory associates, and the authority are included.

Keywords: Vegetation classification, habitat type, community type, plant association, Wyoming, Pinus ponderosa, Pseudotsuga menziesii, Pinus flexilis, Populus tremuloides, Pinus contorta, Picea engelmannii, Picea glauca, Abies Iasiocarpa, Pinus aristata

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Classification of forest land into units of similar biological potential helps land managers, planners, and researchers in the decisionmaking process. Furthermore, identifying capabilities and limitations of forest land units provides a basis for selecting areas most useful for research or for determining the geographical extent to which research findings can be extrapolated.

From 1975 to 1986, the forest lands of Wyoming were classified into habitat types or community types. This report provides a tabulation and brief description of the forest habitat and community types and plant communities of Wyoming (table 1). More detailed descriptions and the associated management implications of each unit are given in the publications cited as the authorities in table 1. Those readers interested in cross-referencing those habitat type names in Wyoming with those found elsewhere in the Rocky Mountains are referred to Alexander (1985).

Because terminology in ecology is not uniformly used or understood, the terms and concepts used in this paper are defined as follows.

"Climax" vegetation is that which has attained a steady state with its environment; species of climax vegetation successfully maintain their population sizes, although their exact locations may be dynamic in space. The classification of climax vegetation into habitat types used in the paper was first proposed by Tansley (1935). Daubenmire (1968), Daubenmire and Daubenmire (1968),

¹Chief Silviculturist with the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station. Headquarters is in Fort Collins, in cooperation with Colorado State University.

Hoffman and Alexander (1976), and Pfister et al. (1977) further elaborated on the definition, usage, and limitations. "Seral" vegetation is that which has not attained a steady state; current populations of some species are being replaced by others. In some instances, trends toward the "climax" vegetation can be identified; in others, these trends are not evident; and in still others, the vegetation may not revert to the climax.

"Habitat type" is the basic unit of land classification based on potential (climax) natural vegetation. A habitat type represents, collectively, all parts of the landscape that support, or have the potential of supporting, the same primary climax vegetation. The climax vegetation upon which the classification is based is called a "plant association." The first level of the classification is the "series," which is the grouping of all plant associations having the same overstory (climax) dominants. For example, all habitat types with Pinus ponderosa as the potential climax dominant are grouped into the Pinus ponderosa series. The series is more than an artificial grouping of habitat types because there is an ecologic basis for grouping habitat types into series. For example, Pinus ponderosa occupies areas that are warmer and drier than areas where Pseudotsuga menziesii is climax. Continuing higher into the mountains of Wyoming, Populus tremuloides, Pinus contorta, Picea engelmannii, and Abies lasiocarpa successively become the dominant

Habitat types within a series are distinguished on the basis of undergrowth vegetation, which is the "smallest structural" unit of the vegetation. Each habitat type has one or more understory species that exhibit similar microenvironmental requirements. The characteristic species for each habitat type may vary from place to place; but the variation is within narrow limits. Some species occur in numerous habitat types; but they have little indicator significance because of their wide occurrence.

The term "community type" has been used to identify vegetation which may be (1) climax but about which there is uncertainty, (2) seral but the trends toward climax are not evident, or (3) the recognized plant community in place varies at any given time. Pfister et al. (1977) and Steele et al. (1983) recognized only those community types defined by (1) and (2). Youngblood and Mueggler (1981) recognized community types defined by (3). Community types have one or more overstory dominants and characteristic undergrowth species. The overstory dominants are often long-lived, seral vegetation that may be self-perpetuating because of repeated disturbance that prevents or slows down the succession to climax vegetation.

"Plant communities" are used here to classify vegetation that was identified with methods other than that used for habitat types. Plant communities may be found later to be plant associations or seral vegetation. Therefore, they may be used to tentatively identify habitat types or community types.

There are some items in table 1 that need further clarification. The description of the site (i.e., warm dry, cool dry, etc.) refers only to the series and location and, therefore, is relative. Clearly, a warm dry Pinus ponderosa site is not the same as a warm dry Abies lasiocarpa site.

In those habitat types where more than one phase is recognized, the typical phase is listed first, followed by the other phases. "Phase" is a subdivision of a habitat type representing a characteristic variation in understory vegetation, usually associated with soil and environmental conditions.

Under the heading "Principal understory species", the naming understory species is listed first, followed by shrubs, graminoids, and forbs in that order.

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Habitat type, community type, or plant community	Location	Site	Successional status	Principal tree associates	Principal understory species	Authority
			Pinus flexilis series			
Pinus flexilis/Juniperus communis H.T.	Absaroka and Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming; Snowy Range, southeastern Wyoming	Cool moist	P. flexilis co-climax with Pseudotsuga menziesii	P. menziesii Pinus contorta Juniperus scopulorum	J. communis Shepherdia canadensis Arnica cordifolia	Alexander et al. Steele et al. 1983
Pinus flexilis/Festuca idahoensis H.T.	Absaroka and Owl Creek Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. flexilis co-climax with P. menziesii	P. menziesii P. contorta J. scopulorum	F. idahoensis Agropyron spicatum Hesperochloa kingii Balsamorhiza sagittata Crepis acuminata	Steele et al. 1983
Pinus flexilis/ Hesperochloa kingii H.T.	Absaroka and Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming; Pole Mountain, Laramie Peaks, Sierra Madre, Medicine Bow Mountains, southeastern Wyoming	Warm very dry	P. flexilis co-climax with P. menziesii (NW. WY) climax (SE. WY)	P. menziesii J. scopulorum Pure stands (SE. WY)	H. kingji A. spicatum Koelerna cristata Poa cusickii Carex rossii Astragalus miser Pulsatilla ludoviciana	Alexander et al. Steele et al. 1983
		P	inus p ondero sa seri e	es		
Pinus ponderosa/ Arctostaphylos uva-ursi H.T.	Black Hills and Bearlodge Mountains, eastern Wyo- ming; Laramie Peaks and Snowy Range, Medicine Bow Mountains, southeast- ern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. ponderosa climax	None	A. uva-ursi Berberis repens Symphoricarpos albus A. cordifolia Lathyrus ochroleucus	Alexander et al. ¹ Hoffman and Alexander ²
Pinus ponderosa/ Juniperus communis H.T.	Bighorn Mountains, north- central Wyoming; Limestone Plateau and Volcanic Moun- tains, Black Hills and Bearlodge Mountains, east- ern Wyoming	Warm dry to well-drained	P. ponderosa climax	None	J. communis B. repens Clematis tenuiloba Spiraea betulifolia H. kingii Poa pratensis A. miser	Hoffman and Alexander 1976,²
Pinus ponderosa-Juniperus scopulorum H.T.	Black Hills and Bearlodge Mountains, eastern Wyoming	Warm dry to well-drained	P. ponderosa climax or co- climax with J. scopulorum	J. scopulorum	Stipa comata Rhus aromatica Artemisia frigida	Hoffman and Alexander²
Pinus ponderosal Physocarpus monogynus H.T.3	Bighorn Mountains, north- central Wyoming; Black Hills and Bearlodge Moun- tains, eastern Wyoming	Warm well-drained	P. ponderosa climax	None	P. monogynus B. repens S. betulifolia S. albus P. pratensis Cystopteris fragilis	Hoffman and Alexander 1976,²
Pinus ponderosa-Quercus macrocarpa H.T.	Limestone Plateau and Red Valley; Black Hills and Bearlodge Mountains, east- ern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. ponderosa climax	Q. тасгосагра	Amelanchier alnifolia B. repens Elymus virginicus	Hoffman and Alexander²
Pinus ponderosa/Spiraea betulifolia H.T.	Bighorn Mountains, north- central Wyoming	Warm d r y	P. ponderosa climax	None	S. betulifolia C. tenuiloba S. albus F. idahoensis H. kingii Galium boreale	Hoffman and Alexander 1976
Pinus ponderosa/ Symphoricarpos albus H.T. Dryzopsis asperifolia phase Balsamorhiza sagittata phase	Limestone Plateau, Volcanic Mountains, and Dakota Hoback; Black Hills and Bearlodge Mountains, east- ern Wyoming	Warm dry to well-drained	P. ponderosa climax	Populus tremuloides	S. albus Prunus virginiana O. asperifolia Carex foenea B. sagittata	Hoffman and Alexander²
Pinus ponderosal Agropyron spicatum H.T.	Bighorn Mountains, north- central Wyoming	Warm very dry	P. ponderosa climax	None	A. spicatum Aristida longiseta Carex filifolia A. frigida Viola nuttallii	Hoffman and Alexander 1976
Pinus ponderosa/Festuca idahoensis H.T.	Bighorn Mountains, north- central Wyoming	Warm dry	P. ponderosa climax	None	F. idahoensis S. albus A. spicatum C. filifolia Achillea millefolium	Hoffman and Alexander 1976

Pinus panderasa/Carex geyeri H.T.	Laramie Peaks, Pole Mountain, Medicine Bow Mountains, sautheastern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. panderosa climax	Usually pure stands	C. geyeri A. uva-ursi H. kingii A. cordifolia Lupinus argenteus Sedum lanceolatum	Alexander et al.1
Pinus panderasa/Carex heliaphylla H.T.	Black Hills and Bearladge Mountains, eastern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. ponderosa climax	None	C. heliophylla Danthonia spicata Artemisia ludoviciana	Hoffman and Alexander ²
Pinus panderasa/Carex rassii H.T.	Laramie Peaks, Pole Mountain, and Snowy Range, Medicine Baw Mountains, southeastern Wyaming	Warm dry	P. ponderosa climax	None	C. rassii Purshia tridentata S. lanceolatum, Cerastium arvense	Alexander et al.1
		Pseu	dotsuga menziesii	series		
Pseudotsuga menziesii/ Acer glabrum H.T., Pachistima myrsinites phase	Wind River Mountains, narthwestern Wyoming	Cool moist	P. menziesii climax	P. flexilis J. scopulorum P. tremuloides	A. glabrum A. alnifolia P. myrsinites Sarbus scopulina Symphoricarpos oreophilus Calamagrostis rubescens C. geyeri A. cordifalia Galium triflarum	Steele et al. 1983
Pseudatsuga menziesii/ Berberis repens H.T., Juniperus cammunis phase, Sympharicarpas areaphilus phase, Carex geyeri phase	Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming; Bighorn Mountains, narth- central Wyoming	Warm dry	P. menziesii climax	P. cantarta P. flexilis J. scapularum P. ponderosa P. tremuloides	B. repens J. cammunis P. myrsinites P. virginiana S. areophilus C. geyeri A. cardifalia	Hoffman and Alexander 1976, Steele et al. 1983
Pseudotsuga menziesii/ Juniperus communis H.T.	Absaroka and Wind River Mauntains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. menziesii climax	P. flexilis P. cantarta	J. communis S. canadensis S. oreophilus A. miser A. cardifalia	Steele et al. 1983
Pseudotsuga menziesii/ Physocarpus malvaceus H.T., Pachistima myrsinites phase	Yellawstane, Snake, Greys, and Hoback River Moun- tains, northwestern Wyaming	Warm moist	P. menziesii climax	P. flexilis P. tremuloides	P. malvaceus P. myrsinites	Steele et al. 1983
Pseudotsuga menziesii/ Physocarpus monogynus H.T.	Bighorn Mauntains, north- central Wyaming	Warm dry to well-drained	P. menziesii climax	P. panderasa P. flexilis P. cantarta J. scapularum	P. monogynus B. repens Rosa acicularis S. oreophilus	Hoffman and Alexander 1976
Pseudatsuga menziesii/ Spiraea betulifalia H.T., Calamagrostis rubescens phase	Yellowstone Plateau, narthwestern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. menziesii climax	P. contorta P. flexilis	S. betulifalia P. myrsinites C. rubescens C. geyeri	Steele et al. 1983
Papulus tremulaides- Pseudatsuga menziesii/ Spiraea betulifolia C.T.	Buffalo and Hoback River Mountains, western Wyoming	Warm dry	P. menziesii climax	P. menziesii	S. betulifalia A. alnifalia B. repens	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Pseudotsuga menziesii/ Symphoricarpos albus H.T.	Absaroka and Teton Mountains, northwestern Wyaming	Warm well- drained	P. menziesii climax	P. contarta P. flexilis J. scopularum P. tremulaides	S. albus A. alnifolia B. repens P. virginiana S. betulifolia	Steele et al. 1983
Pseudotsuga menziesii/ Symphoricarpos oreophilus H.T.	Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. menziesii climax	P. flexilis J. scopularum	S. oreophilus Artemisia tridentata R. cereum A. spicatum	Steele et al. 1983
Pseudatsuga menziesii/ Calamagrastis rubescens H.T., Pachistima myrsinites phase	Yellawstane Plateau and Teton Mauntains, narthwestern Wyoming	Cool dry	P. menziesii climax	P. contorta P. flexilis P. tremulaides	C. rubescens B. repens P. myrsinites P. virginiana S. oreophilus	Steele et al. 1983
Papulus tremulaides- Pseudatsuga menziesii/ Calamagrostis rubescens C.T.	Greys and Snake River Mauntains, western Wyoming	Warm dry	P. menziesii climax	None	C. rubescens Thalictrum fendleri	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Pseudatsuga menziesii/ Arnica cardifalia H.T., Astragalus miser phase	Absaraka and Wind River Mauntains, narthwestern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. menziesii climax	P. flexilis P. contorta J. scopulorum	A. cordifolia S. oreophilus F. idahaensis Paa nervosa A. miser	Steele et al. 1983

Pseudotsugo menziesii P.C.	Medicine Bow and Pole Mountains, southern Wyoming	Warm moist to dry	P. menziesii probably climax. Only remnants surviving early logging.	None	Vaccinium spp. Poa spp. Carex spp.	Alexander et al. ¹
	Populus (remulaides series a	and other P. tremule	aides dominated vegetation		
Populus tremuloides/ Artemisia tridentata C.T.	Wyoming Mountains, western Wyoming	Warm dry	Unclear P. tremuloides may be climax	Usually pure stands	A. tridentata S. oreophilus Poa spp. Stipa lettermanii Melica spectabilis	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Berberis repens C.T.	Wind River, Wyoming; Teton Mountains, western Wyoming	Cool well- drained	P. tremuloides probably seral to Abies lasiocarpa or P. menziesii	A. lasiocarpa P. menziesii	B. repens P. myrsinites P. virginiana A. alnifolia Geronium viscosissimum T. fendleri	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Corylus cornuta H.T., Arolio nudicaulis phase, Pteridium aquilinum phase	Black Hills and Bearlodge Mountains, eastern Wyo <i>m</i> ing	Warm well- drained	P. tremuloides climax	Betula papyrifera	C. cornuta A. nudicaulis Aster ciliolatus Osmorhiza chilensis P. aquilinum	Hoffman and Alexander²
Populus tremuloides/ Juniperus communis C.T.	Wind River Mountains, western Wyoming	Warm dry	Unclear P. tremuloides may be climax	P. flexilis P. contorta	J. communis A. uva-ursi B. repens P. myrsinites	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Prunus virginiana C.T.	Greys, Snake, and Gros Ventre Mountains, western Wyoming	Warm dry	P. tremuloides probably seral to P. menziesii	P. menziesii P. contorta	P. virginiana A. alnifolia B. repens Rosa woodsii S. oreophilus	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Shepherdia canadensis C.T.	Gros Ventre, Hoback, and Wyoming Mountains, western Wyoming	Cool well- drained	P. tremuloides probably seral to A. lasiocarpa	A. lasiocarpa Picea engelmannii P. flexilis	S. canadensis Bromus ciliatus G. boreale G. viscosissimum Pedicularis bracteosa T. fendleri	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Spiraea betulifolia C.T.	Snake and Greys Mountains, western Wyoming	Warm dry	P. tremuloides probably seral to P. menziesii	P. menziesii	S. betulifolia A. alnifolia B. repens P. myrsinites P. virginiana S. albus	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Symphoricarpos oreophilus C.T.	Wyoming and Salt River Mountains, western Wyoming	Warm dry	Unclear P. tremuloides may be climax	Usually pure stands	S. oreophilus Bromus carinatus Elymus glaucus G. viscosissimum L. argenteus M. spectabilis	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Wyethia amplexicaulis C.T.	Wyoming and Salt River Mountains, western Wyoming	Warm dry	Unclear P. tremuloides may be climax	Usually pure stands	W. amplexicaulis	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Calamagrostis rubescens H.T. (SE. WY); C.T. (W. WY)	Gros Ventre, Snake Hoback, Teton, Wyoming, and Wind River Mountains, western Wyoming; Sierra Madre and Snowy Range, Medicine Bow Mountains, southeast- ern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. tremuloides climax (SE. WY) Probably seral to A. lasiocarpa or P. menziesii (W. WY)	A. lasiocarpa P. menziesii	C. rubescens C. geyeri Aster conspicuus Frogaria vesca T. fendleri	Alexander et al.¹ Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Carex geyeri H.T.	Range, Medicine Bow Mountains, southeastern Wyoming	Cool well- drained	P. tremuloides climax	Usually pure stands	C. geyeri J. communis R. woodsii E. glaucus A. cordifolia	Alexander et al.¹
Populus tremuloides/ Arnica cordifolia C.T.	Wyoming and Salt River Mountains, western Wyoming	Cool well- drained	P. tremuloides probably seral to A. lasiocarpa	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii	A. cordifolia S. oreophilus Poa nervosa C. rossii G. viscosissimum	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Astragalus miser C.T.	Wind River and Gros Ventre Mountains, western Wyoming	Warm dry	Unclear P. tremuloides may be climax	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii P. contorta	A. miser G. viscosissimum L. argenteus T. fendleri	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Equisetum arvense C.T.	Wyoming and Wind River Mountains, western Wyoming	Cool wet	P. tremuloides probably seral to P. engelmannii	P. engelmannii A. lasiocarpa P. contorta	E. arvense E. glaucus T. fendleri	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981

Papulus tremulaides/ Heracleum lanatum C.T.	Wind River, Hoback, Gros Ventre, and Wyoming Mountains, western Wyoming	Cool well- drained	Unclear P. tremulaides probably seral to A. lasiocarpa	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii	H. lanatum E. glaucus Pedicularis racemosa Geranium richardsonii T. fendleri	Youngbload and Mueggler 1981
Papulus tremulaides/ Ligusticum filicinum C.T.	Wyoming, Wind River, Hoback, and Gros Ventre Mountains, western Wyoming	Cool maist ta well-drained	P. tremuloides probably seral to A. lasiacarpa, P. engelmannii	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii	L. filicinum Delphinium occidentale G. viscosissimum Osmorhiza occidentalis T. fendleri	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Lupinus argenteus H.T.	Bighorn Mountains, north- central Wyoming	Warm moist to well-drained	P. tremulaides climax	Usually pure stands	L. argenteus P. nervasa Taraxacum officinale A. millefolium	Hoffman and Alexander 1976
Papulus tremuloides/ Ranunculus alismaefolius C.T.	Wyoming Mauntains, western Wyoming	Cool moist to wet	Unclear P. tremuloides probably seral to A. lasiocarpa	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii	R. alismaefolius Carex spp. Claytonia lanceolata Trifolium langipes	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Rudbeckia accidentalis C.T.	Wyoming Mountains, western Wyoming	Cool well- drained	P. tremulaides probably seral to A. lasiacarpa	A. lasiocarpa	R. occidentalis Nemophila breviflora M. spectabilis	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides/ Thalictrum fendleri H.T. (SE. WY); C.T. (W. WY)	Wyoming and Wind River Mountains, western Wyo- ming; Sierra Madre and Laramie Peaks, Medicine Baw Mountains, southeast- ern Wyaming	Warm dry	P. tremuloides climax (SE. WY) Unclear (W. WY) P. tremuloides may be climax	Usually pure stands	T. fendleri R. woadsii S. areaphilus Lathyrus leucanthus L. filicinum	Alexander et al.¹ Youngblaad and Mueggler 1981
	Pinu	s contorta series a	nd other P. contorta	dominated vegetation		
Pinus contorta/ Arctostaphylos uva-ursi H.T.	Bighorn Mountains, north- central Wyoming	Warm dry	P. contarta climax	Usually pure stands	A. uva-ursi J. cammunis S. betulifalia L. argenteus Senecio streptanthifalius Salidaga spathulata	Hoffman and Alexander 1976
Pinus contorta/Juniperus cammunis H.T. (SE. WY); C.T. (NW. WY)	Absaraka and Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming; Pole Mountain and Sierra Madre, Medicine Bow Mountains, southeast- ern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. cantarta climax (SE. WY) seral to unknown climax (Nw. WY)	Pure stands (SE. WY) A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. tremulaides	J. cammunis S. canadensis C. rassii A. cordifalia	Alexander et al.¹ Steele et al. 1983
Pinus contarta/Linnaea borealis C.T.	Yellawstone NP sauth ta Wind River Mountains, narthwestern Wyaming	Cool well- drained	P. contorta seral to unknown climax	A. lasiacarpa P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. tremuloides	L. barealis Vaccinium scoparium A. cordifolia	Steele et al. 1983
Pinus contorta/Shepherdia canadensis H.T. (SE. WY); C.T. (NW. WY)	Absaraka and Wind River Mountains, narthwestern Wyaming; Sierra Madre and Snawy Range, Medicine Baw Mauntains, southeast- ern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. contorta climax (SE. WY) seral to unknawn climax (NW. WY)	Pure stands (SE. WY) A. lasiacarpa P. engelmannii P. menziesii Pinus albicaulis	S. canadensis C. geyeri A. cardifolia Epilabium angustifolium L. argenteus	Alexander et al.¹ Steele et al. 1983
Pinus cantorta/Spiraea betulifolia C.T.	Snake River, Hoback, and Greys River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm dry	P. contorta seral to unknown climax	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. tremuloides	S. betulifalia C. rubescens	Steele et al. 1983
Pinus cantorta/Vaccinium glabulare C.T.	Yellowstone NP sauth to northwestern Wyoming	Caal moist to well-drained	P. contorta seral to unknown climax	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii P. menziesii	V. globulare V. scoparium C. rubescens Lonicera utahensis	Steele et al. 1983
Pinus cantorta/Vaccinium scoparium H.T. (NE. and SE. WY); C.T. (NW. WY)	Yellowstone NP south to Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming; Sierra Madre, Medicine Bow Mountains, southeast- ern Wyoming; Bighorn Mountains, north-central Wyoming	Cool dry	P. cantarta climax (NE.,SE.WY) seral to unknown climax (NW. WY)	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii P. albicaulis P. tremulaides	V. scaparium Paa spp. C. geyeri A. cardifalia Lupinus spp.	Alexander et al. ¹ Hoffman and Alexander 1976, Steele et al. 1983
Pinus cantarta/ Calamagrastis rubescens C.T.	Yellowstone NP south ta Wyaming Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Cool dry	P. contorta seral to unknown climax	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. tremulaides	C. rubescens C. geyeri	Steele et al. 1983
Pinus contorta/Carex geyeri H.T. (SE. WY); C.T. (NW. WY)	Yellowstone NP, north- western Wyoming; Sierra Madre, Medicine Bow Mountains, sautheastern Wyaming	Caal dry	P. contorta climax (SE. WY) seral to unknown climax (NW. WY)	Pure stands (SE. WY) A. lasiacarpa P. engelmannii P. albicaulis P. tremuloides	C. geyeri V. scoparium Paa spp. A. cordifolia Lupinus spp.	Alexander et al.¹ Steele et al. 1983

Pinus cantarta/Carex rassii H.T. (SE. WY); C.T. (NW. WY)	Yellawstane NP south ta Wind River Mauntains, narthwestern Wyaming, Pale Mauntain and Snawy Range, Medicine Baw Mauntains, sautheastern Wyaming	Warm dry	P. contorta climax (SE. WY) seral ta unknawn climax (NW. WY)	Pure stands (SE. WY) A. lasiacarpa P. engelmannii P. albicaulis P. tremulaides	C. rassii P. nervasa L. argenteus Pyrala spp. S. lancealatum	Alexander et al. ¹ Steele et al. 1983
Pinus cantarta/Arnica cardifalia C.T.	Absaraka and Owl Creek Mauntains, narthwestern Wyaming	Warm dry	P. contorta seral ta unknawn climax	A. lasiacarpa P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. albicaulis P. flexilis	A. cardifalia Paa secunda A. miser P. racemasa	Steele et al. 1983
		Pi	cea engelmannii seri	es		
Picea engelmannii/ Juniperus cammunis H.T.	Absaraka, Wind River, and Owl Creek Mauntains, northwestern Wyaming	Caol dry	P. engelmannii climax	P. menziesii P. cantarta P. flexilis P. albicaulis	J. cammunis S. canadensis P. nervasa C. rassii A. cardifalia A. miser	Steele et al. 1983
Picea engelmannii/ Linnaea barealis H.T.	Absaraka and Wind River Mauntains, narthwestern Wyaming	Caal well- drained	P. engelmannii climax	P. menziesii P. cantarta	L. barealis J. cammunis S. albus	Steele et al. 1983
Picea engelmannii/Ribes mantigenum H.T.	Wind River and Owl Creek Mauntains, northwestern Wyaming	Caal dry	P. engelmannii climax	P. cantarta P. albicaulis	R. mantigenum Aquilegia caerulea A. cardifalia Lupinus spp.	Steele et al. 1983
Picea engelmannii/ Vaccinium scaparium H.T.	Wind River Mauntains, narthwestern Wyaming; Bigharn Mauntains, narth- central Wyaming	Caal dry	P. engelmannii climax	P. cantarta P. menziesii P. flexilis P. albicaulis	V. scaparium J. cammunis P. nervosa A. cardifalia L. argenteus	Haffman and Alexander 1976, Steele et al. 1983
Picea engelmannii/Carex disperma H.T.	Absaraka and Wind River Mauntains, narthwestern Wyaming	Caal maist	P. engelmannii ca-climax with Picea pungens,	P. pungens A. lasiacarpa P. cantarta	C. disperma Mitella pentandra Saxifraga arguta Senecia triangularis	Steele et al. 1983
Picea engelmannii/Arnica cardifalia H.T.	Absaraka, Wind River, and Owl Creek Mauntains, narthwestern Wyaming	Caal dry	P. engelmannii climax	P. menziesii P. contorta P. flexilis P. albicaulis P. tremulaides	A. cardifalia H. kingii C. rassii A. miser Frasera speciasa S. streptanthifalius	Steele et al. 1983
Picea engelmannii/Caltha leptasepala H.T.	Absaraka and Wind River Mauntains, narthwestern Wyaming	Caal maist ta wet	P. engelmannii climax	A. lasiacarpa (minar climax) P. cantarta	C. leptasepala M. pentandra Parnassia fimbriata S. arguta S. triangularis Trallius laxus	Steele et al. 1983
Picea engelmannii/ Equisetum arvense H.T.	Absaraka and Wind River Mauntains, narthwestern Wyaming	Caal wet	P. engelmannii ca-climax with P. pungens	P. pungens P. cantarta A. lasiacarpa	E. arvense Luzula parviflara Carex spp. Juncus spp. P. fimbriata S. triangularis Streptapus amplexifalius	Steele et al. 1983
Picea engelmannii/Galium triflarum H.T.	Absaroka, Teton, and Wyo- ming Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Caal maist	P. engelmannii ca-climax with P. pungens	P. pungens P. cantarta P. menziesii	G. triflorum Calamograstis canadensis Actaea rubra Smilicina triangularis S. stellata S. amplexifalius	Steele et al. 1983
Picea engelmannii/ Hypnum revalutum H.T.	Absaraka, Wind River, and Owl Creek Mauntains, narthwestern Wyaming	Caal maist	P. engelmannii climax	P. menziesii P. flexilis P. albicaulis	H. revalutum P. nervasa A. cardifalia Dicranawiesia crispula Peltigera rufescens Pyrala secunda	Steele et al. 1983
			Picea glauca series			
Picea glauca/Linnaea barealis H.T.4	Black Hills and Bearlodge Mountains, eastern Wyoming	Caal well- drained	P. glauca climax	P. panderasa P. tremulaides	L. barealis J. cammunis R. acicularis O. asperifalia	Haffman and Alexander²
Picea glauca/Vaccinium scaparium H.T.4	Black Hills and Bearladge Mauntains, eastern Wyaming	Caal well- drained	P. glauca climax	P. panderasa P. tremulaides	V. scaparium B. repens J. cammunis S. bertulifalia	Haffman and Alexander²

Abies lasiacarpa series

Abies lasiacarpa/Acer glabrum H.T., Pachistima myrsinites phase	Tetan and Hoback Mauntains, narthwestern Wyaming	Warm moist	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. cantarta	A. glabrum L. utahensis P. myrsinites Rubus parviflorus S. scopulina V. glabulare	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiocarpa/Berberis repens H.T., Carex geyeri phase	Absaroka and Wyoming Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Cool well- drained	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. cantarta P. tremulaides	B. repens P. myrsinites S. canadensis S. oreophilus A. cordifolia	Steele et al. 1983
Papulus tremulaides-Abies lasiacarpa/Berberis repens C.T.	Salt River and Wyoming Mauntains, western Wyoming	Cool well- drained	A. lasiacarpa climax	A. lasiacarpa P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. flexilis	B. repens A. cardifalia T. fendleri	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Abies lasiocarpa/ Juniperus cammunis H.T.	Absaroka and Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Cool dry	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. contorta P. flexilis P. albicaulis	J. communis S. canadensis A. cordifolia	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiocarpa/Linnaea borealis H.T., Vaccinium scoparium phase	Absaroka and Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Cool well- drained	A. lasiocarpa climax ar ca- climax with P. engelmannii	P. engelmannii P. contorta P. menziesii P. tremuloides	L. barealis B. repens L. utahensis S. canadensis V. scoparium A. cardifolia	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiocarpa/ Physacarpus malvaceus H.T.	Hoback Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm moist	A. lasiacarpa climax ar co- climax with P. menziesii	P. menziesii P. engelmannii P. tremuloides	P. malvaceus A. glabrum A. alnifolia P. myrsinites S. betulifolia A. cardifolia F. vesca	Steele et al. 1983
Papulus tremuloides-Abies lasiocarpa/Prunus virginiana C.T.	Salt River Mountains, western Wyoming	Warm dry	A. lasiocarpa climax	A. lasiocarpa	P. virginiana R. woodsii C. rubescens	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Abies lasiocarpa/Ribes montigenum H.T., Pinus albicaulis phase	Hoback and Wyoming Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Cool dry	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. contorta P. albicaulis	R. montigenum	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiacarpa/ Shepherdia canadensis H.T.	Bighorn Mountains, north- central Wyoming	Cool to warm dry to well- drained	A. lasiocarpa co-climax with P. engelmannii	P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. contorta	S. canadensis B. repens S. betulifalia V. scoparium A. cordifolia P. secunda	Hoffman and Alexander 1976
Populus tremulaides-Abies lasiocarpa/Shepherdia canadensis C.T.	Salt River and Wyoming Mountains, northwestern Wyaming	Cool dry	A. lasiocarpa climax	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii P. contorta P. flexilis	S. canadensis G. viscasissimum A. cordifolia T. fendleri	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Abies lasiacarpa/Spiraea betulifalia H.T.	Snake, Hoback, and Greys River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm dry	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. cantarta P. menziesii	S. betulifalia A. alnifolia B. repens P. myrsinites	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiocarpa/ Symphoricarpos albus H.T.	Snake, Hoback, and Greys River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm well- drained	A. lasiacarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. contorta P. menziesii P. tremuloides	S. albus A. alnifolia C. rubescens A. cordifolia O. chilensis Thalictrum spp.	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiacarpa/ Vaccinium globulare H.T., Vaccinium scoparium phase, Pachistima myrsinites phase	Yellowstane NP south to Wyaming Mauntains, narthwestern Wyoming	Cool well- drained	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. cantarta P. albicaulis	V. glabulare A. alnifalia P. myrsinites S. betulifolia V. scoparium	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiocarpa/ Vaccinium scoparium H.T., Calamagrostis rubescens phase, Pinus albicaulis phase	Mountains of narthwestern Wyoming; Bighorn Moun- tains, north-central Wya- ming; Medicine Bow Mountains, southeastern Wyoming	Coal dry	A. lasiocarpa co-climax with P. engelmannii	P. engelmannii P. cantarta P. albicaulis (NW. WY) P. menziesii P. flexilis P. tremuloides	V. scoparium J. cammunis P. myrsinites C. rubescens Poa spp. C. geyeri A. cordifalia B. bistartaides E. angustifolium L. argenteus	Alexander et al.¹ Hoffman and Alexander 1976 Steele et al. 1983

Abies lasiocarpa/ Calamagrostis canadensis H.T., Ledum glandulosum	Yellowstone Plateau, northwestern Wyoming	Cool wet to moist	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. contorta	C. canadensis L. glandulosum V. caespitosum Carex spp.	Steele et al. 1983
phase, Vaccinium caespitosum phase						
Abies lasiocarpa/ Calamagrostis rubescens H.T., Pachistima myrsinites phase	Yellowstone NP south to Wyoming Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm dry	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. contorta P. tremuloides	C. rubescens B. repens P. myrsinites C. geyeri	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiocarpa/Carex geyeri H.T.	Sierra Madre and Snowy Range, Medicine Bow Mountains, southeastern Wyoming	Cool dry	A. lasiocarpa co-climax with P. engelmannii	P. engelmannii P. contorta P. flexilis P. tremuloides	C. geyeri Poa spp. C. rossii A. cordifolia	Alexander et al.¹
Abies lasiocarpa/Carex rossii H.T.	Wyoming Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm dry	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. contorta P. tremuloides	C. rossii	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiocarpa/Actaea rubra H.T.	Yellowstone NP south to Wyoming Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm moist to well-drained	A. lasiocarpa climax or co- climax with P. engelmannii	P. engelmannii P. pungens P. menziesii P. contorta	A. rubra A. glabrum L. utahensis V. globulare	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiocarpa/Arnica cordifolia H.T., Astragalus miser phase, Shepherdia canadensis phase, Picea engelmannii phase	Absaroka and Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming; Bighorn Moun- tains, north-central Wyoming	Cool dry	A. lasiocarpa climax or co- climax with P. engelmannii	P. engelmannii P. contorta P. menziesii P. flexilis P. tremuloides	A. cordifolia S. canadensis Antennaria racemosa Arnica latifolia A. miser E. angustifolium P. secunda	Hoffman and Alexander 1976, Steele et al. 1983
Populus tremuloides-Abies lasiocarpa/Arnica cordifolia C.T.	Wyoming and Salt River Mountains, western Wyoming	Cool well- drained	A. lasiocarpa climax	A. lasiocarpa P. contorta	A. cordifolia P. nervosa C. rossii O. chilensis	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Abies lasiocarpa/Arnica latifolia H.T.	Absaroka and Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Cool dry	A. lasiocarpa co-climax with P. engelmannii	P. engelmannii P. contorta P. menziesii P. albicaulis P. tremuloides	A. latifolia P. myrsinites R. montigenum Aster engelmannii P. racemosa	Steele et al. 1983
Populus tremuloides-Abies lasiocarpa/Ligusticum filicinum C.T.	Gros Ventre and Wyoming Mountains, western Wyoming	Cool moist to well-drained	A. lasiocarpa climax	A. lasiocarpa P. menziesii P. flexilis	L. filicinum G. viscosissimum O. occidentalis T. fendleri	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Abies lasiocarpa/ Pedicularis racemosa H.T.	Wyoming Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm moist to well-drained	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. contorta P. flexilis P. albicaulis P. tremuloides	P. racemosa P. myrsinites S. oreophilus A. cordifolia A. engelmannii	Steele et al. 1983
Populus tremuloides-Abies lasiocarpa/Pedicularis racemosa C.T.	Salt River and Wyoming Mountains, western Wyoming	Warm moist	A. lasiocarpa climax	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii	P. racemosa S. oreophilus A. cordifolia	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Populus tremuloides-Abies lasiocarpa/Rudbeckia occidentalis C.T.	Wyoming Mountains, western Wyoming	Cool moist to well-drained	A. lasiocarpa climax	A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii	R. occidentalis N. breviflora T. longipes	Youngblood and Mueggler 1981
Abies lasiocarpal Thalictrum occidentale H.T.	Yellowstone NP south to Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Warm well- drained	A. lasiocarpa climax	P. engelmannii P. menziesii P. contorta P. tremuloides	T. occidentale O. chilensis A. cordifolia	Steele et al. 1983
Abies lasiocarpa/Moss H.T.	Pole Mountain and Snowy Range, Medicine Bow Mountains, southeastern Wyoming	Cool dry	A. lasiocarpa co-climax with P. engelmannii	P. contorta	Moss spp. Lichen spp.	Alexander et al.1
		Pi	nus albicaulis serie	es		
Pinus albicaulis/Juniperus communis H.T., Shepherdia canadensis phase	Absaroka and Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Cool dry	P. albicautis co-climax with P. contorta	P. contorta A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii	J. communis A. uva-ursi S. canadensis A. cordifolia A. miser	Steele et al. 1983
Pinus albicaulis/ Vaccinium scoparium H.T.	Yellowstone NP south to Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Cool dry	P. albicaulis co-climax with P. contorta	P. contorta A. lasiocarpa P. engelmannii	V. scoparium P. nervosa C. rossii A. cordifolia	Steele et al. 1983
Pinus albicaulis/Festuca idahoensis H.T.	Absaroka and Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyoming	Cool dry	P. albicaulis climax	P. contorta	F. idahoensis A. miser	Steele et al. 1983

Pinus albicoulis/Carex geyeri H.T.	Yellowstone NP, northwestern Wyaming	Caal dry	P. olbicoulis climax	P. contarta	C. geyeri F. idahoensis Stipa accidentolis Trisetum spicatum	Steele et al. 1983
Pinus olbicoulis/Carex rossii H.T., Pinus contorta phase	Yellowstone NP sauth to Wind River Mountains, northwestern Wyaming	Cool dry	P. olbicaulis co-climax with P. cantarta	P. contorto A. lasiocorpa P. engelmannii	C. rossii C. geyeri	Steele et al. 1983
		Low Elevation	and Riparian Plan	t Communities		
Alnus tenuifalia P.C.	Sierra Madre, Medicine Bow Mauntains, southeast- ern Wyoming	Warm maist	A. tenuifolia probably climax	Nane	Carex spp. Juncus spp.	Alexander et al.1
Juniperus osteosperma P.C.	Forest border east of Absaroka to Wind River Mountains, narthwestern Wyoming	Hot dry	J. asteasperma climax	P. flexilis	Nane	Steele et al. 1983
Juniperus scopulorum P.C.	Snake River Mauntains, northwestern Wyoming; Laramie Peaks, Medicine Baw Mauntains, southeast- ern Wyaming	Hot dry	J. scapularum probably climax	None	Cercacarpus ledifalius A. tridentata J. communis Corex spp.	Alexander et al.¹ Steele et al. 1983
Populus spp. /Salix spp. P.C	. Flood plains of Snake, Wind, Green, and Shoshone Rivers, northwestern Wyoming	Warm wet ta moist	Papulus, angustifalia, Papulus balsamifera, Populus trichacarpa may be climax	P. engelmannii P. pungens Betula occidentalis	Solix spp. Croteogus douglosii Elaeagnus commutato	Steele et al. 1983
Quercus gombelii P.C.	Sierra Madre, Medicine Bow Mountains, sautheast- ern Wyoming	Hot dry	Q. gombelii probably climax	None	S. oreophilus A. alnifolio P. virginiana P. pratensis	Alexander et al. ¹
Quercus macracarpa/ Symphoricarpos accidentalis H.T.	Black Hills and Bearlodge Mountains, eastern Wyoming	Warm very dry	Q. macrocarpa probably climax	Nane	S. occidentolis	Hoffman and Alexander²
Quercus macracarpo/ Ostrya virginiona H.T.	Black Hills and Bearlodge Mountains, eastern Wyoming	Warm very dry	Q. mocrocarpo prabably climax	Nane	O. virginiono	Hoffman and Alexander ²

¹Alexander, Rabert R., Gearge R. Haffman, and Jahn M. Wirsing. Forest vegetation of the Medicine Baw National Farest in sauthwestern Wyaming: A habitat type classification. (Manuscript in preparation.)

²Haffman, Gearge R., and Rabert R. Alexander. Farest vegetation of the Black Hills and Beorlodge Mountains: A habitat type classification. (Monuscript in preparation.)

³Passible, but a sporse representative in Wyaming.

⁴Bearlodge Mountains have essentially no Piceo glauca at present, but they may have cantained P. glauca at ane time and retain the environment necessary to support P. glauca in the future.



Rocky Mountains



Southwest



Great Plains

U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service

Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station

The Rocky Mountain Station is one of eight regional experiment stations, plus the Forest Products Laboratory and the Washington Office Staff, that make up the Forest Service research organization.

RESEARCH FOCUS

Research programs at the Rocky Mountain Station are coordinated with area universities and with other institutions. Many studies are conducted on a cooperative basis to accelerate solutions to problems involving range, water, wildlife and fish habitat, human and community development, timber, recreation, protection, and multiresource evaluation.

RESEARCH LOCATIONS

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